REMARKS
REJECTIONS UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 1, 4-7, 9, 12-14, 16, 18 and 20-21

Claims 1, 4-7, 9, 12-14, 16, 18 and 20-21 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Patent No. GB 2313460 issued to Van Haperen (*Haperen*). Applicant submits claims 1, 4-7, 9, 12-14, 16, 18 and 20-21 are not obvious in view of *Haperen* for at least the reasons set forth below.

Claim 1 recites, in part, the following:

allowing access to the portable computing device when the **currently distinguished image corresponds to the portion of the user's password and the input selection is synchronized with the currently distinguished image**.

Independent claims 9 and 16 recite similar limitations.

The Office action cites *Haperen* as disclosing the limitations of claim 1. *Haperen* discusses transmitting x-y position data in response to selecting symbols displayed on a screen to authenticate a user. See pages 3-4. The x-y positions are compared to a table to determine if the password has been entered correctly. See page 4. *Haperen* does not disclose authentication based on time synchronization between images and selections. In contrast, claim 1 recites allowing access to the portable computing device when the currently distinguished image corresponds to the portion of the user's password and the input selection is synchronized with the currently distinguished image. Thus, *Haperen* fails to disclose at least one limitation of claim 1. Therefore, Applicant respectfully submits claims 1, 9 and 16 are not obvious in view of *Haperen*.

Claims 4-7 depend from claim 1. Claims 12-14 depend from claim 9. Claims 18 and 20-21 depend from claim 16. Given that dependent claims